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ABSTRACT

The major objectives of this briefing are to inform non-governmental organizations (NGOs) of population problems and progress worldwide and to provide information on the International Conference on Population to be held in Mexico City in 1984. The bulk of the report summarizes the group meetings and followup discussions held to examine four major themes that will be focused on at the upcoming Mexico City conference. Topics include fertility and the family; population distribution, immigration, and development; population, resources, environment, and development; and mortality and health policy. Other papers presented discuss the World Population Plan of Action, United Nations policies and programs, CONGO's role, and the challenge to the NGOs. Biographical information on speakers is provided. (RM)

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POPULATION AND THE FUTURE:
FROM BUCHAREST (1974) TO MEXICO CITY (1984)

Summary Report of the Second Annual
United Nations Fund for Population Activities
Briefing for Non-Governmental Organizations in New York

16 February 1983

SP 015 083

This report has been prepared by the
United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service, New York

by Robert De Vel Muller

Second Annual UNFPA/NGO Briefing on Population Issues

February 16, 1983 — 9AM to 4PM
Second Floor, Church Center, 777 United Nations Plaza, New York, 10017

Cosponsored by:

The Development Committee of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council (CONGO)

The Population Committee of the Conference of U.N. Representatives of UNA-USA

The United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service

UNFPA-related Non-Governmental Organizations

NGO Population Task Force

NGO Population Task Force:

Chair— David Poindexter, The Population Institute
Vice-Chair and Chair-Briefing — Frances Breed, National Audubon Society

Elizabeth Coit, Unitarian Universalist Service Committee
Joseph Dwyer/Jan Neamatalla, World Federation for Voluntary Surgical Contraception
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James Olson, Unitarian Universalist Association
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Helen Szterenfeld, International Planned Parenthood, Western Hemisphere Region
Nancy Wolff, Planned Parenthood, New York
George M. Worthington, The Margaret Sanger Center, Planned Parenthood
Alba Zizzamia, World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations

UNFPA Information and External Relations Division:

Jyoti Singh, Chief
Jeannie Peterson, Deputy Chief
James Chui, External Relations Officer
Carolyn Benbow, External Relations Officer

UN Population Division:

German A. Bravo-Casas, Coordinator, World Population Conference Implementation

UN Non-Governmental Liaison Service (New York):

Angus Archer, Coordinator

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Basic Timetable

Leading to the International Conference on Population, 1984

1974 United Nations International Conference on Population, Bucharest
World Population Plan of Action (WPPA)

At Bucharest, certain principles were adopted which have shaped population policy during the last decade:

1. population and development are integrally related;
2. population policies are part of social/economic policies and not substitutes for them;
3. people have the right to determine and number and spacing of their children, and the right to the information and means to do so;
4. women have a right to share an equal part in the development process;
5. supply and characteristics of natural resources, food supply and environmental quality must be considered when formulating population policy.

1983 UNFPA/NGO Briefing for NGOs, 16 February, New York

Expert Group Meetings in Preparation for the 1984 Conference:

. Fertility and the Family, 5-11 January, New Delhi, India
. Population Distribution, Migration and Development, 21-25 March, Hammamet, Tunisia
. Population, Resources, Environment and Development, 25-29 April, Geneva, Switzerland
. Mortality and Health Policy, 30 May-3 June, Rome, Italy

The results of these meetings will be used in a review and appraisal of WPPA by the Population Commission acting as the Preparatory Committee for the Conference.

UNFPA/NGO Briefing, 2-3 May, Geneva

Worldwide NGO Consultation for the 1984 Conference, 13-15 September, Geneva

1984 Preparatory Committee begins open-ended session, January, New York

Following these proceedings, the Regional Economic Commissions of the UN will make suggestions and recommendations to be considered at the Conference. On the national level, member states will be asked to establish national preparatory committees to prepare for the Conference.

United Nations International Conference on Population, 7-14* August, Mexico City

The main objectives of the Conference are:

1. to strengthen and sustain the progress made to date in population;
2. to identify emerging problems and respond with concerted action;
3. to initiate programmes in areas where no significant progress has been made.

* to be confirmed by the Mexican Government

Preface

To inform NGOs of population problems and progress worldwide
To provide information on the International Conference on Population 1984
To discuss effective support of the Conference

These were the objectives of the Briefing and they are the objectives of this Summary Report for you. The Briefing was attended by approximately 150 non-governmental organization representatives, population specialists, government and international agency members.

For years there have been briefings in Geneva for international NGOs on developments in the population field. Although there are many NGOs based in New York who cannot attend the Geneva meeting, those interested in population did not actively organize here until three years ago, when David Poindexter (Population Institute) took the lead in establishing the NGO Population Task Force. Its objectives were to support each other's work and the work of UNFPA and the UN. Its members wanted to be briefed once a year on worldwide population developments. In 1982, it requested UNFPA to convene the first New York Briefing, held in UNFPA headquarters with an overflow attendance. That set the pattern of mutual involvement. This year the Briefing was even more important: it was the first organized effort of NGOs toward preparations for the International Conference on Population in Mexico in 1984.

This Summary Report gives the substance of the February 16th Briefing which included the major themes on which Expert Working Groups will prepare the final conference documents for 1984. It provides basic information, and can be used as a background paper complementing preparations for the Conference and outlining the issues which will be addressed at the Conference itself. NGOs involved in population action were asked to focus on what they can do with their own constituencies to prepare to make 1984 an effective continuation of Bucharest. They can assess their own activities to implement the World Plan of Action and make recommendations for future action. They can pressure their own governments to support population programmes, to formulate policy on population, and to send competent teams to Mexico.

The Cosponsors, listed on the preceding page, and the NGO Population Task Force made the Briefing possible. The UNFPA and the UN Population Division provided the informational base and helped throughout. The speakers and the NGO leadership contributed their expertise and are represented in this Report. Those who attended made the proceedings a lively exchange. In addition, special thanks go to the following: David Poindexter, Chair of the Population Task Force and his staff members Mark Magnier and Dan Sherr; James Chui, Liaison Officer of the UNFPA Division of Information and External Relations; German Bravo-Casas, Coordinator of World Population Conference Implementation at the UN Population Division; and Angus Archer, Coordinator of the UN Non-Governmental Liaison Service, who organized this report, which was compiled and edited by Robert De Vel Muller.

Frances Breed
Chair, Annual Briefing
Manager, Population Program
National Audubon Society

New York, April 1983

The World Population Situation: Problems and Progress

Rafael Salas
Under Secretary-General of the United Nations
Executive Director, UNFPA
Secretary-General, International Conference on Population, 1984

In the area of population programmes, happy collaboration has always marked the relationship between governments and private institutions. UNFPA stands on record as the United Nations organization which has most collaborated with and financed NGO efforts. Population is a sensitive topic, one where the role of government intervention in a very private, domestic matter is not always clear. NGOs, with over fifteen years of solid involvement in the field, are well equipped to deal with population issues.

We continue to add 80 to 90 million people annually to a global population of 4.5 billion. In spite of the progress that has been made in reducing fertility rates from a projected 2 per cent to the present 1.7 per cent, population programmes and projects must be sustained. They cannot be left to periodic enthusiasm. For the first time, developing countries are experiencing a decline in growth rates. It will take an estimated 70 years to stabilize population growth, even if replacement level is reached. Our efforts are an initial step toward stabilization, perhaps around 10.2 billion people in 2100.

While there seems to be a sort of indifference to the population question today, particularly in the developed countries, the interest in population has not diminished in the developing countries — it has only increased. For every dollar UNFPA spends, many of the developing countries contribute four to population programmes. This is the most tangible evidence of commitment, and of the success of the message of some fifteen years ago — population is important. The interest transcends religious, cultural and social biases. We no longer have to "sell" population in Latin America, and the commitment to population problems which has existed for a long time in Asia is beginning to surface in Africa.

The International Conference on Population is to be held in Mexico City in August 1984. The Conference will assess the attainment or non-attainment of the goals of the World Population Plan of Action (WPPA) in terms of programmes. There is no need to redress the objectives of the 1974 Conference, for they are general enough to encompass problems with which we might be faced even in the 21st Century. Nevertheless, it is important to ascertain what countries have done in the course of the last decade. We want to record successes as well as failures and managerial obstacles to attaining WPPA objectives.

More important, the Conference is an opportunity to project future needs. All of us should be future oriented. The global population is likely to reach 6.1 billion by the year 2000. The bulk of the increase will be in developing countries, and the problems

which this will pose will be tremendous. What role can NGOs play to assist governments to attain their objectives? There is much room for productive collaboration. Our singular objective is to maintain the attention. focus and commitment of countries, both developed and developing, to the population problem. Although we may not see the results of many programmes in our lifetime, we can have the satisfaction of contributing to the establishment of a firm commitment for the future.

World Population and its Growth Rate, 1950-2000[1] (as assessed in 1978)

Year	Population (million)	Rate[2]
1950	2,513	—
1955	2,745	1.77
1960	3,027	1.95
1965	3,344	1.99
1970	3,678	1.90
1975	4,033	1.84
1980	4,415	1.81
1985	4,830	1.80
1990	5,275	1.76
1995	5,733	1.66
2000	6,199	1.56

[1] Populations from 1980 to 2000 are results of projections by the Population Division.

[2] Average annual rate for the preceding five years.

Source: *World Population Trends and Prospects by Country, 1950-2000: Summary report of the 1978 assessment.* ST/ESA/SER.R/33, New York 1979.

DISCUSSION

Q. How will NGOs and governments interact at the Mexico City Conference?

Salas: Due to budgetary and other restraints, there will be no forum for such simultaneous exchanges as there was in Bucharest. Of the $2.3 million budget, only $800,000 is from the regular United Nations budget. For the rest, we must rely on voluntary contributions. The Conference is one of short duration. Its documentation will be limited to 140 pages, no small feat for a UN Conference. Though there will be a limit on documentation inside the Conference hall, NGOs can make statements available to delegates. A select group of NGOs will be invited to participate in the plenary session, and other NGOs will be able to participate as observers. The best way in which NGOs can influence the outcome of the Conference is to prepare collective papers to be presented to their government as the position of NGOs in that particular country, and for those views to be expressed to the Conference by that government. In short, there are two avenues for NGO participation: through the NGO delegations and through governmental delegations.

Q. Given the neutrality of UNFPA, how do you deal with those countries which wish to increase their rate of population growth?

Salas: Three per cent of the developing country population lives in countries which wish to increase fertility. In these countries, UNFPA is engaged primarily in data collection, lowering infant mortality rates, nutrition and health programmes. Of course the bulk of our program is in countries which wish to decrease fertility.

Q. The Conference should limit its objectives and result in a plan of action. How can a focus be arrived at to allow the Conference to concentrate on priority items? Will the recommendations of the four expert groups be made available to NGOs before the Conference? Is there any other pre-Conference documentation?

Salas: The expert groups will finish their work in June, 1983, and their recommendations will be submitted to the Preparatory Committee in January 1984 for approval. After this process is completed, the results will be made available to NGOs. NGOs will also be represented in the expert groups.

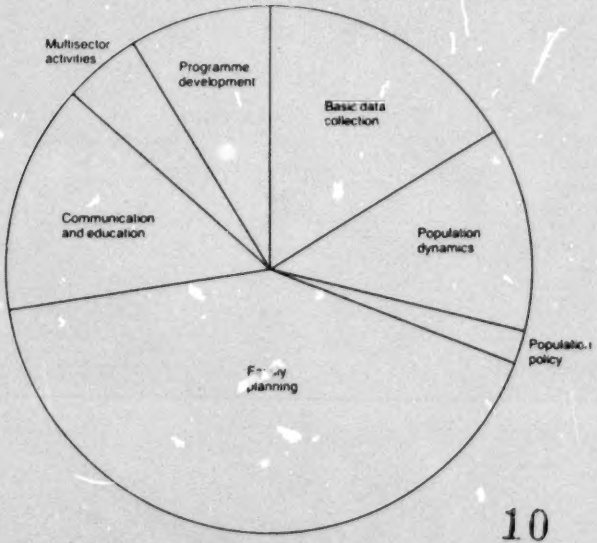
Q. As a point of information, the US representative insisted on a cheaper, shorter conference. UNFPA has done that, and the US should be reminded that their request has been met and requested to contribute appropriately.

Salas: There have been some encouraging comments from the US delegate to ECOSOC, and we are making progress in convincing the Department of State. It is significant that more developing countries have contributed to the Conference than developed countries. The desire for this Conference is truly global, and it will set a precedent as the least expensive UN Conference ever.

Q. What consideration has UNFPA given to cultural and economic incentives for small families?

Salas: Expert groups will consider this matter.

UNFPA
Assistance to Population Activities, 1969/81, by major sector



Source: UNFPA; What it is What it does, p.11.

The International Conference on Population 1984 — Issues and Outcome

Leon Tabah
Director, UN Population Division
Deputy Secretary-General, International Conference on Population, 1984

The main merit of the World Population Plan of Action rests in its very existence. It is an excellent starting point for the formulation of population policies, and we should preserve it and improve upon it. Three pivotal ideas of Bucharest are the starting points for the 1984 Conference:

1. The main cause of the population problem is underdevelopment, and demography alone has no relevance unless linked to its economic and social context. Lowering growth rates will make a significant contribution to development.

2. Purely demographic plans must be avoided.

3. All couples and individuals have the basic right to decide freely and responsibly the number and spacing of their children, and to have the information, education and means to do so.

What ought to be done within this framework?

The World Population Plan of Action was intended to spur action. Our task is to adapt the Plan to the changed demographic situation of the past ten years, and to new trends and future problems. We must also increase the scope of population policy to allow for greater interaction with other development variables. Areas of concern fall into five categories.

Population policy is a means of accelerating a trend which is occurring anyway. The global interrelationship between population and development should be stressed, as well as the interrelationship between population, resources, environment and development.

Many countries have been successful in the area of family planning. We should take stock of the transformations that have occurred as we plan for the future.

In addition to population education, equality for women, income equalization and the like, we must recognize the importance of face to face contact, of grass-roots level interchange.

In the last ten years, we have experienced an ambiguous mixture of hope and disillusionment regarding fertility levels. Birth rates have begun to decline in some countries, but have increased in most sub-Saharan countries. The deceleration of

mortality rates has been slower than expected. In addition, the spatial distribution of many populations has become more unbalanced, creating a major obstacle to the full use of resources and integration of the population into economic, social and political activities.

The demographic problems facing developed countries are completely different from those facing developing countries.

What pitfalls should we avoid?

We ought to be aware of the variety of issues preoccupying delegations and the UN agencies, and be concerned not only with the technical preparation for the Conference but also with its political aspects. We should not over-rely on pre-Conference consultations and should avoid confusing the scientific preparation for the Conference and the political issues of the Conference itself. A far reaching consequence of the debate will be the fact that it is the developing countries which are calling for the Mexico Conference, while it was the developed which were the motivating force behind Bucharest.

The most sensitive and divisive issue is that of quantitative goals, which would not only express the objectives of the Plan in a clear form, but also could be closely monitored. A quantitative goal must be associated with timing, or dates. Bucharest rejected this idea. The Mexico Conference should take into account the variety of present and future situations, and not contradict the principles of the Plan of Action (especially "all couples and individuals have the basic right to decide freely and responsibly the number and spacing of their children").

In short, we are preparing for a conference which should be the natural continuation of Bucharest but with less ideology and more improved implementation, a conference committed to action. At Bucharest, the draft prepared by the Secretariat was too far ahead of its time. I hope that in Mexico we will not be too far behind. The danger will be to be too conservative.

Developing countries with populations of 10 million and over; classified according to the percentage rate of decline in birth rates between 1965–70 and 1975–80

% Change in Birth Rates	Number of Countries	% of Total Population of Developing Countries (1982)	Countries
>-25	1	29.67	China
>-15, <-25	7	29.27	Chile, Colombia, India, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Thailand
>-10, <-15	4	6.22	Brazil, Peru, Philippines, Sri Lanka
>-5, <-10	5	9.30	Bangladesh, Egypt, Mexico, Pakistan Venezuela
<0, <-5	16	13.47	Afghanistan, Algeria, Burma, Ghana, Iran, Iraq, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nigeria, Sudan, United Republic of Tanzania, Republic of Vietnam, Zaire, Argentina, Ethiopia
>0, <+5	2	0.09	Kenya, Uganda

Source: Populi, IX: 3, p.11.

DISCUSSION

Q. The emphasis in voluntary family planning is on responsibility. Individual or governmental responsibility? What is UNFPA's position on incentives and disincentives?

Tabah: The question of incentives and disincentives should be left to individual governments. It is impossible to address such an issue globally.

Q. Given the importance of media to family planning and community development, is there a provision for the use of languages other than the national language in an attempt to reach immigrant populations?

Tabah: Though such a provision has not yet been discussed, I hope one will be established.

Q. Problems arose at Bucharest because the Conference was prepared by experts and attended by others. Who will represent governments on the floor, and how will technical expertise be assured? Concerning the establishment of quantitative goals, I suggest that UN projections be used as a base-line with a goal set over it. Such a process would render the goals less politically sensitive.

Tabah: When there is only one session to discuss the Plan of Action, the level of representation is usually not very high. General debate attracts a higher level of representation. Obviously we strive for the highest level of representation possible. Concerning the issue of politically sensitive targets, let me give you an example. At Bucharest, it was suggested that a reduction of 10 per cent be set for countries, such as Mexico, experiencing a very high birth rate. Mexico ruled out this provision, but ten years later has succeeded in reducing birth rates by an even higher amount.

Q. Recently, the goal of a two-child family average has received much attention. Does this indicate a change in governmental attitudes?

Tabah: The discussion is still a very open one.

Fertility and the Family

Gwendolyn Johnson Acsadi
Senior Population Affairs Officer, UN Population Division
Technical Secretary, Expert Group on Fertility and the Family

Discussions of the Expert Group on Fertility and the Family focused on:

1. Fertility response to modernization;
2. Choice with respect to bearing children: assessment of alternative perspectives on decision making in reproductive behaviour;
3. Reproductive and economic activity during the female life cycle;
4. The relationship of family type, structure and function to fertility levels and change;
5. Demographic goals and policy alternatives.

It was recognized that there are many avenues through which modernization exerts an influence on fertility, either having a depressing effect or causing it to rise temporarily in the early stages of development. These variables include: the labour value of children, the economic costs of children, infant and child mortality, age at marriage, infecundity due to breastfeeding, malnutrition and disease, familial relationships, etc. Most of these variables are susceptible to government policy initiatives.

Among the principal questions in respect to choice in the bearing of children is the extent to which individuals in developing countries, particularly rural parts, can make a conscious choice. We must determine whether there is a conflict between acknowledged rights of individuals and couples to freedom of choice in respect to childbearing and the rights and goals of society, and whether incentives and disincentives are acceptable means of achieving governmental goals or are abrogations of individual rights.

The Expert Group did not content itself with cliches calling for improvements in the status of women. Rather, it dealt with specific ways in which women could be enabled to participate more fully in development, to lead more economically and socially productive lives.

It was recognized that all governments should articulate a population policy in light of national circumstance and goals, and with respect for human rights. Governments have an obligation to take both short and long term measures to alleviate the inter-related problems of population growth and structure on the one hand, and conditions of development on the other.

Hernan Sanhueza
Director, International Planned Parenthood Federation, Western Hemisphere Region

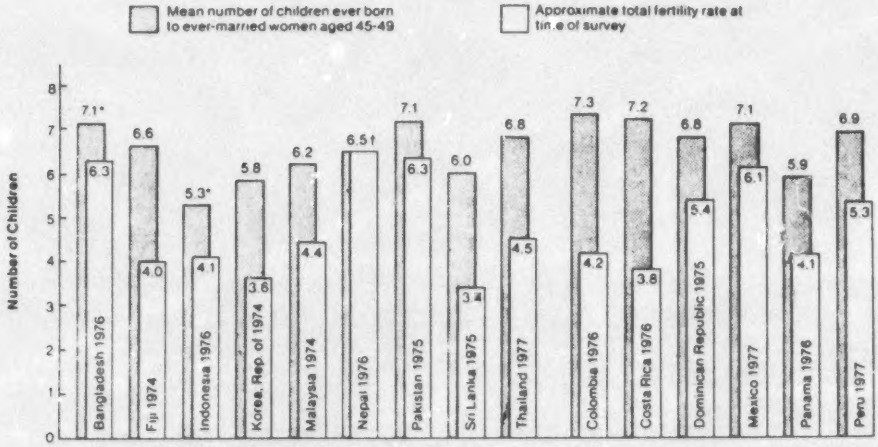
Fertility has started to decline in several countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, where extended use of better and more effective contraceptives appears consistently to have been an important mechanism in its regulation. One of the strong

motivating factors for people's actions at the family level is the well being of their children. It is clear that the chances for better health, nutrition and child development increase as fertility declines. The effects of birth order on several factors that influence child development have also been studied, and consistently show the adverse effect of large families.

One cannot forget the important influence that modern methods of fertility regulation have had at the individual and family levels, by affecting people's sexual and social lives. The more effective contraceptives, independent of the sexual act, such as the pill and the IUD, have for the first time in history provided women with a real separation between their sexual and reproductive lives and have substantially contributed to decreasing anxiety about unwanted pregnancies.

Irrespective of the role that family planning services play in fertility decline, it is undeniable that people require them. The less expensive, the better. The more and accessible the services, the more likely it is that people will make use of them. The future for universal availability of contraceptives lies in the effective utilization of expanded community based and commercial networks that will ensure wide service coverage, continuity and self-sufficiency. Only the commitment and collaborative activities of the public and private sectors (both commercial and voluntary) can meet the challenge. This is a task in which NGOs, collaborating with governments and United Nations agencies, can be of critical importance. With their specialized knowledge of specific disciplines and/or country situations, NGOs can help identify and coordinate the utilization of resources which exist at all levels, giving family planning and availability of services their true dimension for the benefit of our populations.

Past and Current Fertility Levels in 15 Developing Countries



Note: The mean number of children ever born to ever-married women aged 45-49 (gray bars) is based on the number of ever-married women, while the total fertility rate (white bars) is based on all women. Thus, to the extent that fewer than all women marry, the fertility decline is exaggerated.

*Figure for women aged 45-49 lower than for women aged 40-44, latter shown.
†Figure for mean number of children corrected after publication of country report. Marital fertility rate shown, total fertility rate not available.

Source: Population Reports, The Johns Hopkins University, July, 1979.

DISCUSSION

Discussion Leader: George Zeidenstein, President, Population Council

We must bear in mind the following:

1. Fertility decisions are made by couples, not by governments;
2. Those decisions reflect personal desires about family size;
3. The main service that governments can provide to people who want to limit family size is family planning programs.

When couples in countries with governmental objectives to limit population growth do not wish to limit family size, there is a contradiction and conflict between private and societal goals. Governments seek to exert influence through the promotion of ideas about social responsibility, incentives and disincentives, and economic and social development. Attention to better education, improved health, attractive job prospects and security in old age are among the alternatives available to governments for creating fertility-reducing demand. Such measures are also goods in themselves.

Q. Isn't governmental determination of population size and growth rate inconsistent with the right of couples to decide their own family size? To what extent will the Secretariat of the Conference address these questions? Consider for example, China, which has instituted enormous population control programmes so that the Chinese population will not exceed 700 million in the year 2070. Are these control programmes consistent with an individual's right to make his/her own decisions, and what is the significance of sterilization and abortion to the implementation of such programmes?

Acsadi: The answer to this question is in the Plan of Action. Individuals have the right to determine the number and spacing of their offspring. The governmental role is to apprise individuals of their responsibility to society and the reasons for governmentally determined goals. Through community educational programs, it is possible to make individuals aware of their options and alternatives.

Q. Did the Expert Group which met in Delhi deal with abortion and the status of women?

Acsadi: Mention of abortion was limited to specific references to methods available. The status of women can be changed only through education and an alteration of the social institutions which shape attitudes and relationships in respect to women and their status.

Q. Though developing countries are more interested in population-related issues than developed ones, all countries should have a population policy, even if it be a laissez-faire one. How does UNFPA deal with a country such as the United States, which has no population policy and views such policies as a violation of individual rights, and where there exists a general fear of family planning?

Zeidenstein: This is an issue which is best addressed through quiet talks with policy makers, and does not fall under the jurisdiction of the Conference.

Q. What is the so-called economic and social context of population policy? How does UNFPA handle it and what are the most important factors?

Zeidenstein: In the ten years since Bucharest, it has become clear that the "development is the best contraceptive" slogan is rubbish. Development is no contraceptive at all. However, economic and social development and other related factors, including employment, education, social security and the like, do have an impact on the individual's desire to use contraceptives, that is, to limit family size. There are other factors as well.

Population Distribution, Migration and Development

Zulma Recchini de Lattes
Chief, Trends and Structure Section, UN Population Division
Technical Secretary, Expert Group on Population Distribution,
Migration and Development

The Expert Group Meeting on Population Distribution, Migration and Development will address the issues of internal and international migration in relation to development. The agenda will consider the following topics.

During the late 1960s and early 1970s, the variety of internal and international migration patterns was not recognized. The prevailing view was that the consequences of rural-urban migration were mostly negative for the receiving communities. More recently, governments have expressed growing concern that population distribution is one of the important sources of development problems. Is migration responsible for many of the problems observed in today's developing countries, such as unemployment, inadequate housing and services, and contamination of the environment? Or is it that migration to large cities makes the typical problems of underdevelopment, frequently observed in rural areas, more visible?

Little is known about the relationship between rural development and migration, which varies depending on type and characteristics of prevalent migration patterns, socio-cultural setting, etc. We must establish whether the effects of rural-urban migration are negative. Has this assertion failed to reflect the point of view of migrants better off after migration? Have current approaches failed to recognize the potential of a migrant as an agent of social and economic change? What are the consequences of migration for rural and urban areas?

The concerns of developed and developing countries regarding migration, urbanization and development are completely different. Most LDCs are faced with extremely rapid urban growth, while MDCs have reached high levels of urbanization and moderate

or low urban growth rates and sometimes even absolute decline of some of their large urban agglomerations.

The final topic on the agenda is international migration. Changing conditions have prompted one host country after another to revise its immigration laws to reduce the number of legal immigrants. Meanwhile, the permanent problems facing the Third World and the legitimate human desire to improve living conditions has augmented the flows of undocumented migrants. Refugee movements, usually involving people in extreme poverty moving between developing countries, diversified and grew enormously during the past decade. These are the most compelling and politically sensitive aspects of international migration.

Population of the major regions of the world, 1975-2100 (mean variant)

	Population (in millions)					
Regions	1975	2000	2025	2050	2075	2100
Africa	407	853	1,542	1,851	2,116	2,189
South America	322	608	897	1,102	1,182	1,187
North America	236	289	315	317	318	318
East Asia	1,096	1,406	1,642	1,709	1,724	1,726
South Asia	1,257	2,206	3,182	3,840	4,103	4,145
Europe	474	520	541	540	541	540
Oceania	21	30	36	40	41	41
Soviet Union	254	312	349	370	377	379
World	4,067	6,174	8,203	9,769	10,402	10,525

Source: Populi IX: 1, p.82.

Leon Bouvier
Director, Demographic Research and Policy, Population Reference Bureau

The "Population Act" of moving, whether internally or internationally, is examined primarily as to its effects on receiving regions. The movements include rural to urban within a nation, as well as movements from the poorest to the more affluent developing countries and the movements from the less developed to the more developed countries.

A number of ethical questions are posed:

1. Is it proper for the UN to guarantee the right to emigrate without mentioning where to emigrate?
2. Does a nation have the right to tell its citizens where they may reside?
3. Does a nation have the right to block immigration if its economic well-being is in jeopardy?
4. Does a nation have the right to determine what kind of society it should be — in size, racial and ethnic composition?

The population growth in developing countries since World War II is considered to be an important factor that has contributed to the current situation but little can be

done in the short run through fertility reduction. However, both economic and family planning assistance are vital if these problems are to be eventually solved.

Three suggestions are offered as possible new approaches to this massive problem of global migration:

1. Putting the question on the agenda of international institutional reform;
2. The acceptance by developed countries that major changes will occur in their societies in the future, though immigration levels should be limited;
3. Accepting the fact that humankind can solve any problem if it so desires and if it refrains from war.

DISCUSSION

Discussion Leader: Philander P. Claxton, President, World Population Society

As we grapple with the issues addressed by Ms. Lattes and Mr. Bouvier, we should bear in the mind the following:

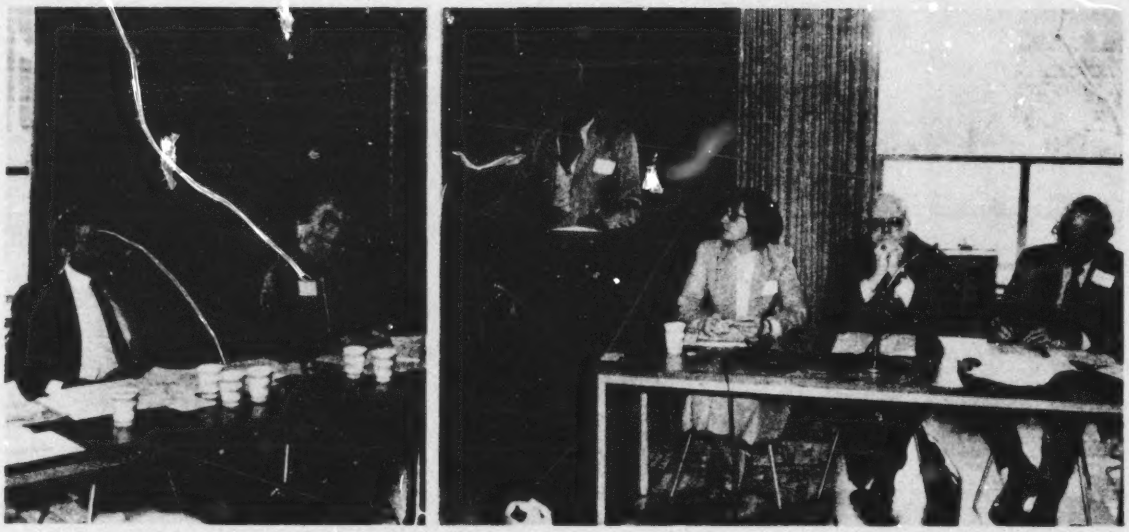
1. Less than a decade ago, very little attention was paid to migration. Experts recognized the problem, but it received very little political consideration.
2. Given the need to slow migration from rural to urban areas, how can we change the attraction of urban areas to stop the rural exodus? What can be done about the excessively high birth rates in rural areas?
3. It is essential that the expert groups be able to communicate with conference participants.

Q. Will the Conference consider: (a) brain drain: migration by educated elites which has a negative effect on sending countries; (b) safety valve: does the ability to migrate lessen the need for elites to face up to the problem? (c) effects of migration on receiving countries: a skewed distribution of income due to an increased supply of labour at lower levels.

Lattes: One day of the proceedings will be devoted to international migration. Basically the Conference is intended to deal with general questions, and it is hoped that these three issues will be dealt with.

Q. What is the relationship between security and migration? What is the impact of war on population?

Bouvier: International migration is a major issue for the future, and what is currently happening in Ghana is only the beginning of a larger global migration/refugee problem.



From left to right: George Zeidenstein, Frances Breed, Gwendolyn Acsadi, Zulma Recchini de Lattes, Leon Bouvier, Philander Claxton.

Population, Resources, Environment and Development

David E. Horlacher
Chief, Population and Development Section, UN Population Division
Technical Secretary, Expert Group on Population, Resources,
Environment and Development

The debate that has led to the acceptance of the interrelationship between population, resources, environment and development has been intimately connected with the search for development alternatives that would be effective in reducing disparities between developing and developed countries and in alleviating world poverty. The 1980 International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade calls for significantly reducing the current disparity, as well as for the eradication of poverty and dependency.

Some scholars hold that reducing rates of population growth may yield short run increases in per capita income, but that in the long run, higher rates of population growth may be beneficial to mankind. Others hold that population growth is not only an obstacle to development, it may make improvement impossible. The 1984 UN Population Conference will consider where the truth lies. Are we approaching the limits of the capacity of the planet to support the increasing demands that an increasing number of people will make of it?

The Conference will examine the role of population growth and age structure in five areas. In each area we will begin with the principles and objectives of WPPA and then review the current situation, the role population plays, and the other factors involved, thereby attempting to identify policy alternatives.

Food Requirements

Today, enough food is produced to provide the total world population with an adequate and nutritious diet, and it can be expected that growth in food production can remain abreast of population growth. Yet large segments of populations in developing countries are faced with malnutrition. Slowing rates of population growth will facilitate the implementation of programmes of agricultural modernization which do not endanger the agricultural resource base.

Health, Education and Housing

Since the age structures of most developing countries are dominated by a high proportion of young people, meeting the health and educational requirements of such a population provides a formidable challenge. Making the necessary adjustments in the way these services are delivered could be facilitated by reducing rates of population growth and concomitantly moving to age structures less dominated by the young.

Employment, Social Security and Income Distribution

Increased employment may not be sufficient to overcome poverty. Policies directed toward reduced fertility would have little impact on the employment problem for several decades. The linkage to migration is however more direct and immediate. Also, all countries should carry out comprehensive, humanitarian and just programmes of social security for the elderly.

Non-renewable Natural Resources

Since requirements for natural resources increase both with growing populations and growing per capita consumption, supply of natural resources must be considered in planning population policy. Attention must also be directed to the just distribution of resources and to the minimization of waste. Increasing scarcity of resources such as coal and oil should be offset by conservation, technical innovation and substitution.

The Environment as Supplier of Renewable Resources and a Depository for Waste

In most cases, environmental problems arise out of poverty and the fact that the environment is owned in common and thus individuals fail to consider environmental costs and benefits. Land and soil are key renewable resources which are being lost due to desertification, deforestation, salinization, water-logging, urbanization, etc. We must also consider the impact of increasing population numbers and consumption per

capita on the amount of waste products which is transmitted to the earth, air and water. Though adapting population policies is not a necessary or sufficient condition for solving problems implied by the population, resources, environment and development relationships, it is a complementary element which will give individuals, communities and nations additional time to find and apply solutions to these problems.

Growth rates of food output by major developing regions (excluding China), 1960–80, in per cent per annum

	Food output			
	Total		Per capita	
	1960-70	1970-80	1960-70	1970-80
Developing countries	2.9	2.8	0.4	0.4
Africa	2.6	1.6	0.1	−1.1
Middle East	2.6	2.9	0.1	0.2
Latin America	3.6	3.3	0.1	0.6
Southeast Asia	2.8	3.8	0.3	1.4
South Asia	2.6	2.2	0.1	0.0

Source: Populi IX: 4, p.31.

Erik Eckholm
Managing Editor, Natural History

In the decade since Bucharest, governments have become much more aware of a set of interrelated natural resource trends that in some regions are undermining the very process of development. The degradation of croplands, forests and waterways results from many factors, but rapid population growth is usually a major contributor.

Despite the recent lowering of global population projections, environmental prospects remain grim for the regions projected to have the greatest increases. Under the medium UN projections, the population of Africa — where per capita food output is declining at an increasing pace and large areas are turning into wasteland — will quadruple. The population of Latin America — where forests are fast disappearing and urban shantytowns spreading — is projected to triple. Asia's numbers will rise from 2.5 to 6 billion. With realistic assumptions about social organization, technological adaptation, and economic inequity, it appears nearly certain that these rising populations will be forced to seriously damage natural resources as they struggle for food, fuel, and housing.

The increasing extent of landlessness, a major cause of environmental stress, results from population growth and inequality in land ownership combined with a lack of robust growth in non-agricultural jobs. Landlessness is now emerging as a problem even in sub-Saharan Africa: Kenya, with 20 per cent of its rural residents landless and a population growth rate of 4 per cent annually, is an ominous harbinger for the rest of Africa. Throughout the developing world, the poor, lacking access to land or jobs, move

into marginal lands — steep slopes, tropical rain forests, and desert fringes — destroying resources of great value in fruitless attempts to make a living. Alternately, in semi-arid zones such as the Sahel, traditional fallow cycles are shortened until land is turned to waste.

The concept of carrying capacity has often been misused. Some analysts make fantastic assumptions about social and technological change to prove the earth can sustain 40 billion people; others fail to take account of human and environmental adaptability and calculate extremely low carrying capacities. The germane question is not how many people the earth's resources can theoretically support, but rather, what kind of world do we want to live in. The longer it takes to dampen rapid population growth, the more stringent and undesirable will be the measures necessary to cope with the consequences.

DISCUSSION

Discussion Leader: Larry Kegan
President-Emeritus, Population
Crisis Committee

From left to right: David Poindexter, Leon Tabah, Larry Kegan

The issue facing us is what kind of life we want to lead, not the carrying capacity of the planet. China has taken account of the connection between employment, environment, resources and population. Why is their target 700 million in 2100? The Chinese have determined that they can, on a sustainable basis, only employ 400 million people, and can only feed (qualitatively) 700 million. Taking these factors into account, the Chinese designed a programme to reduce the population of China. It is necessary to consider such factors early so that individual and community interest remain consistent with each other. On the one extreme, Lester Brown holds that the planet can only sustain 6 billion, while Roger Revelle, on the other hand, argues 50 billion. I would suggest that 10.5 billion may be a realistic, sustainable goal.

Lessening the disparity between developed and developing countries may be an unrealistic goal. However, we must meet the basic needs of everyone, regardless of country of origin.

Q. I disagree with the previous two speakers and their "debunking of figures". Is it not desirable to set and agree on quantitative goals and dates?

Q. Isn't there a need to agree upon a set of alternative levels of population so that we can discuss the consequences of arriving at that level and what the consequences of such a population level would be?

Horlacher: The United Nations publishes low, medium and high estimates of population trends.

Q. Can we choose levels?

Claxton: If one considers the Global 2000 Report and the environmental disaster which it predicts if current trends continue, the fertility level must lower. Then one must consider the alternative effects of lower levels on the environment and the quality of life.

Q. If the world's population reaches 10 billion, we will lose every other ecological niche except the inter-human. We must take into account the importance of preserving ecological niches — consider that 44 acres of forest are bulldozed every minute.

Horlacher: We cannot protect every species, but strategies do exist and are being developed to protect large numbers of them.

Mortality and Health Policy

Zulma Recchini de Lattes
Chief, Trends and Structure Section, UN Population Division
Technical Secretary, Expert Group on Mortality and Health Policy

The right to the enjoyment of good health and longer life as a basic human right has been affirmed by the two United Nations Symposia on Population and Human Rights, held in preparation for the 1974 Conference and in 1981. The quantitative targets set by the 1974 Plan of Action for the achievement of certain mortality goals by 1985 and 2000 by the world as a whole will not be met, nor will the targets set for countries with the highest mortality levels attained. We can safely say that 22 countries, with a total population of about 150 million persons, will not attain an average life expectancy of 50 years by 1985, and that 69 countries, with a combined population of 1.7 billion people, are not likely to achieve a life expectancy of 62 years by the same year. The targets for the year 2000 also appear very unrealistic in light of what is known today. At the other extreme, the countries which have been the most successful in lowering their mortality levels, such as Japan, have already reached 75 or 76 years of life expectancy at birth. The gap is enormous. Disparities are even larger when mortality during the first year of life is considered.

It is widely recognized that a shift in focus of health policies is desirable: from an expensive, highly specialized, and highly technical curative approach benefiting only a small percentage of the population, to a much wider coverage of population with more essential health services, with emphasis on disease prevention and health promotion. However, real political commitment to a new focus departing from imported, expensive and inappropriate technologies and approaches has been observed only in a small number of cases. In the few countries that have succeeded in considerably reducing mortality levels, a more equitable distribution of resources seems to have been a major concern.

Improvements in health status of populations and the reduction of mortality levels do not need any justification. They are goods in their own right. But the positive consequences of mortality and morbidity reduction on economic development have frequently been disregarded by developing countries, which often assign low priority to health in their national planning. With few exceptions, these countries have ignored the fact that mortality reduction — or a healthy population — is either a prerequisite or a concomitant of economic development.

Countries reporting infant mortality of approximately 100 to 150 per 1000 live births and total fertility of approximately six children or more

Sub-Saharan Tropical Africa:
Botswana, Burundi, Comoros, Congo, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, Swaziland, Togo, Uganda, United Republic of Cameroon, United Republic of Tanzania, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Latin America and the Caribbean:
Bolivia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Nicaragua, Suriname.

Asia and the Pacific:
Bangladesh, Burma, Iran, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Pakistan, Viet Nam.

Middle East and Mediterranean:
Algeria, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates.

Countries reporting infant mortality rates of approximately 150 or more per 1000 live births and total fertility of approximately six children or more

Sub-Saharan Tropical Africa:
Angola, Benin, Central African Republic, Chad, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Upper Volta.

Asia and the Pacific:
Afghanistan, Bhutan, Nepal.

Middle East and Mediterranean:
Democratic Yemen, Yemen.

Davidson Gwatkin
Senior Fellow, Overseas Development Council

Thinking about developing country mortality trends has changed notably in the past few years, since the 1974 Bucharest Population Conference. Fertility has begun to decline earlier than expected, but mortality levels may be declining less rapidly than before. The data available are far less clear for mortality than they are for fertility. However, such data as those which exist are far from reassuring. According to United Nations figures, for example, life expectancy was rising at a rate of about two-thirds of a year annually during the 1950s. By the early 1970s, rates had declined to about four-tenths of a year annually.

The basis for concern is not only that a slowdown has occurred, for an annual rise of four-tenths of a year is still quite high by Western historical standards. Of greater interest is the early state at which this slowing is occurring. In the West, the increase was steady until a life expectancy of 60 to 65 years had been achieved. In the developing countries, the slowing has appeared when life expectancy was twenty years lower: between 40 and 45 years.

There are two sharply divergent schools of thought on the implications of the above. Some see it as a temporary aberration, caused by the unusually severe economic difficulties of the 1960s and 1970s, and the temporary decline in effectiveness of medical interventions resulting from the inadequacy of the available technology. This being the case, there is little need for any deep concern, for mortality can be expected to continue downward at an adequate rate in the long run. The other school of thought views the slowdowns as the first state of a continuing trend, which if not checked through effective action, will lead to ultimate stagnation if not decline in mortality levels. Here, the slowing is a reflection of the incipient arrival of the long anticipated excessive pressure of population on the world's resources. As population continues to grow, the situation can only get worse.

Absent from the discussion is a consideration of the very wide range of intermediate possibilities that can be imagined. Different countries may tend toward population equilibria at levels of life expectancy at some "moderate" level: between, say, the 35 years or so prevailing before World War II and the 75 years of the more developed countries. My personal guess is that some mixture of such intermediate possibilities is more likely than achievement of either of the two extreme positions which currently colour discussion of mortality's future. If this happens, then the population problem will have been "solved" in the sense that it will go away more or less quietly. However, our objective will have only been half-way achieved. We will have moved from the traditional equilibrium of high birth rates to one of moderate rates, rather than the low fertility-mortality equilibrium that is the ultimate objective of our efforts.

The challenge is to prevent such a "silent resolution" of the world's population trends from occurring, and to ensure instead that low levels of mortality and fertility are achieved.

DISCUSSION

Discussion Leader: Stanley Matek, Past President,
American Public Health Association

Today, health care expenditures pay for predominantly high technology and other capital intensive, costly aspects of health care. Relatively little is spent on mortality and morbidity prevention.

What can the 1984 Conference do, and what role can NGOs play? Governments often are themselves a vested interest: they operate service programs, and must often seek to stabilize that which already exists. NGOs, or third sector organizations, usually exist outside these particular constraints. The issue for NGOs is: how do we create the structures to put pressure on governments and the private sector?

Bucharest set the agenda, lacking complete knowledge and understanding of solutions. We now have a good idea of how to solve these problems. We must ask ourselves how to get these solutions implemented.

Edith Segall, League of Women Voters, poses question to the panel.

Q. Must we accept the idea of different lifespan depending on region, or can we expect to move toward one standard of life expectancy for all?

Lattes: It is my personal view that equitable life expectancy is a fundamental human right. However, the issue is a highly political one.

Gwatkin: Standard life expectancy does make sense, and it is assumed that a universally low level of mortality is achievable. This is an unrealistic goal, however, if we do not continue economic development. If we change our expectations, we'll accept inequity.

Q. Will the Conference consider the quality of life of the very young and the elderly?

Lattes: These are very relevant issues and will most certainly be discussed.

Q. The link between mortality and development is not well understood. How can we make this a compelling issue, and how can health and national budgeting be linked?

Lattes: Economic development cannot exist without a reduction in mortality, which implies and requires real concern of government and political powers.

Gwatkin: Most governments of LDCs are somewhat representative and willing to provide services for their constituencies. Make three or four proposals which the government will be able to implement. The UNICEF GOBI project is a good example of this type of programme.

Q. Has there been a study of the relationship between labour supply, mortality and retirement age?

Tabah: This is an extremely important question which relates to the health of workers. In developed countries, for example, two or three working years are lost due to mortality. In Egypt, the corresponding figure is fifteen years.

Q. I am struck by the link between mortality statistics and other health statistics on the one hand, and quality of life on the other.

Lattes: The consequence of lengthening life expectancy is change in lifestyle and family relationships, and different economic and social relations.

UNFPA Policies and Programmes

Heino Wittrin
Deputy Executive Director, UNFPA

There is no area that needs NGO participation as much as population. Non-governmental organizations, representing the full spectrum of ideas, opinions and intelligence, are essential to stimulating governments to establish policies, protect the values intrinsic in the issue, and make available the means required to fill existing gaps.

I am concerned mainly with the administrative and financial aspects of UNFPA. Ninety per cent of our budget comes from 13 donor countries, although the developing countries have a far stronger representation in terms of numbers contributing. Though our base of financial support has increased, it is still a narrow base, and these days NGOs must rally to preserve the status quo. We are functioning during a period of shrinking resources. Given the current global economic climate, the outlook for population funding is somewhat tenuous, and we have been forced to cut back on our funding. Unfortunately, family planning programmes are often the first to be curtailed, since the preparation for a census, for example, simply cannot be eliminated.

Certainly, family planning is an area of priority concern to UNFPA; other important areas are demographic planning, data collection, research, training and policy

formulation. It is becoming increasingly difficult to channel expenditures through NGOs to the same extent as has been done in the past. We hope to maintain the status quo, but can offer no guarantee.

In response to some of the comments earlier this afternoon, the entry point for family planning activities is often through primary health care or mother-child programmes. Asian countries are convinced of the need for population programmes: they do not need to be motivated, but rather require occasional assistance in terms of expertise and technology. In Africa, however, the situation is different. We must strive to motivate governments through entry points such as basic services, through cooperatives and family health, for example. It is not the freestanding type family planning activity which will help reduce fertility. Grappling with the population question is a long term proposition. To succeed, we need staying power; we cannot be sidetracked into focusing only on the short or medium term.

THE UNFPA PROGRAMME 1969-1979

(in $ thousands)

Project category	Africa (Sub-Saharan)	Asia and Pacific	Europe, Mediterranean, and Middle East	Latin America and Caribbean	Inter-regional and Global
Basic data collection	29 294.8	12 540.4	16 062.0	12 960.5	13 321.0
Population dynamics	9 821.1	6 234.5	5 022.3	8 986.1	18 657.4
Formulation and evaluation of population policies and programmes	1 348.9	3 273.4	1 248.7	9 258.2	7 512.2
Implementation of policies	31.0	3 572.6	212.5	—	13.2
Family planning programmes	13 371.5	122 983.7	31 292.2	56 620.6	33 256.7
Communication and education	9 217.9	20 455.8	4 141.5	8 606.2	14 100.1
Special programmes (not elsewhere classified)	1 000.4	1 524.2	437.9	366.6	6 331.1
Multisector activities	5 300.8	13 597.3	6 016.9	3 691.6	35 715.1
Total	69 386.4	184 181.9	64 434.0	100 489.8	128 906.8

Source: UNFPA: What it is, What it does, p.21.

Arumugam Thavarajah
Chief, Policy and Evaluation Section, UNFPA

There are many factors which contribute to the determination of UNFPA policy. We have, in essence, three masters: the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, and the Governing Council which also oversees UNDP. General Assembly resolutions on issues such as aging, population and resource distribution, and environment and development have both direct and indirect effects on policy. The activities of other organizations within the United Nations system and of the regional economic commissions must also be taken into account. International strategies, like the World Population Plan of Action, the International Development Strategy and the World Plan of Action on Women and Development, in addition to the nature of programmes

submitted by countries, also provide the background in which UNFPA policy evolves.

Before 1974, we were able to meet the demand for population programmes. After the 1974 Conference, demand began to be greater than resources available for allocation. It was therefore necessary to arrive at a system by which resources could be allocated equitably. A priority system was therefore instituted. All countries with a per capita GNP of $500 or less per annum deserve priority assistance, provided they meet at least two out of four criteria: (1) an annual increment in population of 100,000 or more; (2) a gross reproduction rate of 2.5 or more; (3) an infant mortality rate of 160 per 1000 or more; and (4) a density on agricultural land of two persons per hectare or more. Fifty-three countries (30 in Africa, 16 in Asia and the Pacific, 5 in the Middle East and Mediterranean, and 2 in Latin America) are eligible for this priority assistance, which comprises two-thirds of the UNFPA resources for country programmes. The balance is allocated to the remaining countries. The scale varies, but no country is denied assistance.

Priority Countries for Population Assistance

Afghanistan	Guinea	Mauritania	Somalia
Bangladesh	Honduras	Morocco	Sudan
Burundi	India	Nepal	Thailand
Democratic Kampuchea	Jordan	Niger	Tonga
Democratic Yemen	Kenya	Pakistan	Uganda
Ecuador	Lao People's Democratic Republic	Paraguay	United Republic of Tanzania
El Salvador	Liberia	Philippines	Upper Volta
Ethiopia	Madagascar	Rwanda	Viet Nam
Gambia	Maldives	Samoa	Yemen Arab Republic
Ghana	Mali	Senegal	
		Solomon Islands	

Other countries to be given special attention:*

Benin	Nigeria
Central African Republic	Peru
Guatemala	Swaziland
Indonesia	Syrian Arab Republic
Kiribati	Togo
Malawi	Tuvalu
Namibia	United Republic of Cameroon

* Countries which would qualify as priority countries for population assistance if a 2 per cent variance from the threshold levels were allowed.

Source: UNFPA: What it is, What it does, p.15.

Jyoti Singh
Chief, Information and External Relations, UNFPA

There are three areas of NGO-UNFPA cooperation which are valid today, in the foreseeable future, and in the immediate context of the 1984 Conference.

1. Building up and strengthening awareness and understanding of population issues: The task is an international one but its dimensions must be dealt with nationally, analyzed and acted upon in the context of national political, social, economic and

cultural sensitivities. We can see the link between population issues and factors such as environment, resources, health and development. Each country must decide how these interrelationships are relevant to its own development plans. NGOs can play an instrumental role in bringing about a better understanding of these interrelationships and in defining and analyzing how the link between population and other factors need be considered and utilized.

2. Innovative projects: NGOs can launch programmes in which governmental and intergovernmental agencies are not interested or cannot get involved for political reasons. NGOs were in the field long before UNFPA and have the potential to demonstrate what can be done, ultimately building up a climate in which the government can commit itself. Despite tremendous expansion of population programmes in the past decade, there are areas where innovation is still needed.

3. Community involvement and participation: Population programmes must be implemented at the grass-roots level in order to succeed. If NGOs bring something to the population field, it is grass-roots involvement. Governments can organize, plan and implement a programme, but results are dependent on the decisions of individuals and couples. They form part of a community. It is what is discussed and accepted at the community level, and how communities decide to become involved which will determine the future of population programmes. Most community programmes have not extended past urban centers to rural areas, which is where we ought to be going.

DISCUSSION

Q. Are funds allocated by UNFPA to national programmes for (economic or other) incentives and disincentives? If so, in what proportions and to what extent? Do any donor countries provide restrictions on allocation?

Wittrin: UNFPA provides assistance to governments and participants in governmental programmes. In general, no funds go to incentive programmes, except in the occasional case where a governmental programme already includes them. The usual route for funds is through an executing agency, such as WHO or UNESCO, or directly to a government which executes its own programme. On the whole, there is no restriction placed on allocation by donor countries, except for those which emanate from the UNFPA Governing Council.

Q. The status of women is directly related to population increase. Is this taken into account in the distribution of funds?

Wittrin said: I cannot give you a percentage figure, but anyone in the field of population must view women as the most important factor.

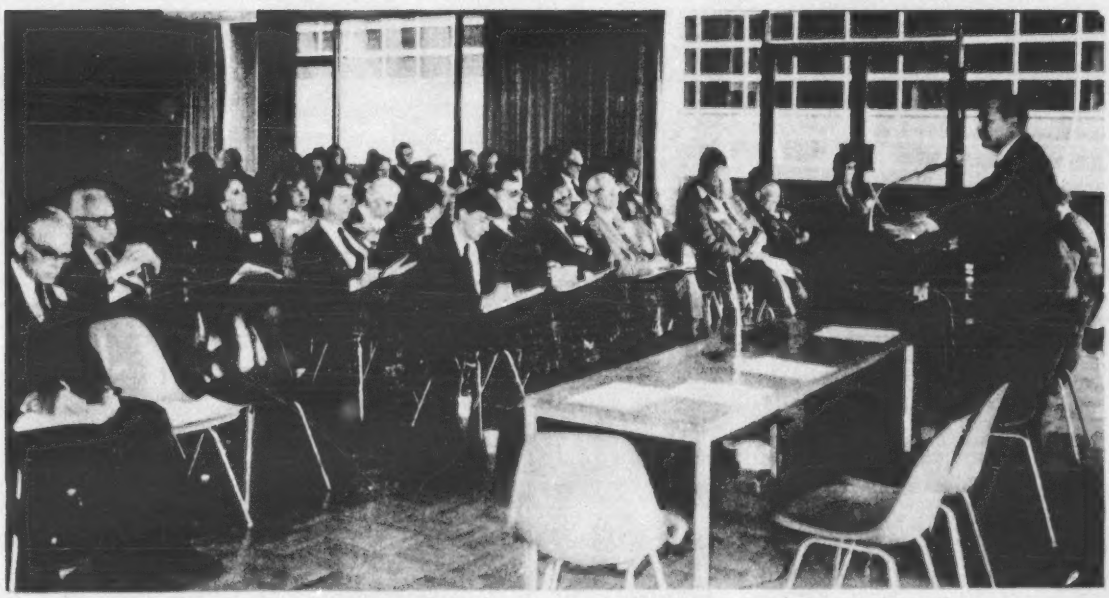
Singh said: After the 1974 Conference, UNFPA adopted guidelines on how to build components within all programmes which would strengthen the role of women. This is considered in all programmes, and UNFPA's professional staff includes a high ratio of women. This is consistent with UNFPA's commitment to multisector programmes.

CONGO's role

Alba Zizzamia
President, Conference of NGOs in Consultative Status with UN/ECOSOC

CONGO's aims are twofold: (a) to monitor, develop and further the consultative process; and (b) to facilitate the coming together of NGOs with common interests in subjects under UN purview. In accordance with this second aim, CONGO has worked to ensure as much NGO participation in world conferences as possible.

Under the consultative relationship, NGOs are expected to bring to the work of ECOSOC both their expertise and the points of view and knowledge of their constituencies. There is always a group of NGOs specialized in a given field, which can provide useful contributions to UN proceedings on the basis of the experiences and activities of their various affiliates. CONGO has agreed to act as convenor of the NGO activities for the Population Conference, emphasizing a pre-Conference NGO consultation and as much international planning as possible.



Rafael Salas addresses Briefing participants.

The challenge to NGOs

Werner Fornos
President, Population Institute
Director, Population Action Council

It is time for NGOs to stand up, speak up, and be counted. As 15 years of work on the problems of population begin to come to fruition, we are faced with the possibility of funding cuts. Such cuts would be catastrophic in light of the fact that the population problem is solvable. Its solution, however, will require an intensive and increased effort on the part of NGOs, governments and UN agencies during the remainder of the century. The excellent turnout at this briefing is indicative of the mutual trust which has been established between UNFPA and NGOs, the result of many years of working together.

The time has come for NGOs to show their concern, for not only involvement but total commitment to the resolution of current population problems. We must marshal our memberships to speak up on this issue, and we must be counted as organizations putting pressure on policy makers. The road to Mexico is eighteen months long, and it begins here. Let's start the journey by getting population programmes funded at the needed level, including appropriate funding for UNFPA. In the process, let's let the American people know that less than two cents is spent daily per American on humanitarian development assistance. Even in the worst of times, such a meager commitment to the problems facing collective humanity is no less than shameful. Gandhi once said: "No one is going to solve our problems but ourselves." We cannot afford to lessen our efforts.

Biographical Information on Speakers

Gwendolyn-Johnson-Acsadi has been working as a demographer in the Population Division of the United Nations for the past three decades. She was Officer-in-Charge of the Fertility Studies Section of the Population Division from 1967 to 1971. Later she was a United Nations Expert and Research Professor of Demography at the University of Ife in Ile-Ife, Nigeria. She is at present Senior Population Affairs Officer and Technical Secretary of the Expert Group Meeting on Fertility and the Family (New Delhi, 5-11 January 1983). Previously she was Chief of the Fertility and Family Planning Studies Section of the Population Division (1974-1982). She was also Technical Secretary of the Symposium on Population and Family, one of the four major preparatory meetings for the World Population Conference in 1974, and Technical Secretary of the Committee on Population and Family at the World Population Conference in Bucharest in 1974.

Leon Bouvier is presently director of Demographic Research and Policy Analysis at the Population Reference Bureau. He has served as demographic adviser to the International Statistical Programme Center, Bureau of the Census, and was consultant to both the U.S. House of Representatives Select Committee on Population and the U.S. Select Commission on Immigration and Refugee Policy. Bouvier, who received his B.S. degree from Spring Hill College, Mobile, Alabama, and his doctorate in Sociology from Brown University, has taught at Georgetown's Center for Population Research and the University of Rhode Island where he served on the faculty for ten years. He has published extensively in many demographic and sociological journals and is the co-author of the monograph Socio-Religious Factors in Fertility Decline and the textbook Population: Demography and Policy, St. Martin's Press.

Frances Breed — Manager, Population Program, National Audubon Society and Chairman of the UNFPA Briefing, spent the 1960s working in population, the 1970s in conservation: six years as Director of Administration with Planned Parenthood-World Population, three years as Associate Director of Sex Information and Educational Council, an organizer of the 1970 Chicago Congress on Population and the Environment, and nine years with the National Audubon Society, becoming Vice President, Public Relations and Development. In 1979 she started the population programme for Audubon under Russell W. Peterson's leadership. Experience has included government relations on international, state and local levels; developing public interest programmes and community organizations; promoting inter-agency cooperation and agency/government project coordination; working with environmental groups; foundations grants and financial control. She has also served as a resource consultant, United States, Middle East and Southeast Asia; management consultant; and as liaison with industry.

Philander P. Claxton, Jr. — Department of State 1946-1975, had a central role in originating the principal programmes of U.S. Government assistance to economic and social development in LDCs from the beginning of Point 4 Program, 1950. As Deputy Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations, he managed the authorizing legislation and appropriations for these programmes to 1963. In 1966 he was designated the first Special Assistant to the Secretary of State for population matters abroad. Represented

the U.S. in numerous international bodies and meetings, including the U.N. Population Commission; organized and served on the U.S. Delegation to the U.N. World Population Conference, Bucharest in 1974. President, World Population Society (1975 on) organized major international population conferences in 1975, 1976, 1978 and 1980. Heads RAPID project of The Futures Group for the Population Office of AID, analyzing the effects of population factors of 35 developing countries on their economic and social development goals; presenting computerized analyses to political leadership.

Erik Eckholm is currently the managing editor of Natural History magazine. His books on international environmental and development issues — Losing Ground (1976), The Picture of Health (1977), and Down to Earth (1982) — have been translated into ten languages. He has previously worked as a Senior Researcher at Worldwatch Institute, as a member of the State Department's Policy Planning staff, and as a consultant to a variety of U.N. and private organizations.

Werner Fornos is President of the Population Institute and Director of the Population Action Council, a division of the Institute that focuses on establishing a strong commitment from leadership in the industrialized — especially in the United States — to solve the problem of rampant global population growth. Mr. Fornos has been a management consultant in family planning to such institutions as the United States Agency for International Development, the American Public Health Association, Westinghouse Health Systems, the Airlie Foundation and George Washington University. He has worked on development projects involving population and family planning in Tunisia, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Iran, Turkey, Mexico, the Philippines, Indonesia, China, Sri Lanka and Kenya. Under his leadership, the Population Action Council has recruited 18,000 community leaders in the United States who speak out on population issues at the local and national levels.

Davidson R. Gwatkin has been covering population, health and nutrition issues at the Overseas Development Council since 1977. He received a B.A. from Haverford College and a Master of Public Affairs from Princeton's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs. Following two years in manpower planning with the Ford Foundation in New Delhi and three years in the Foundation's New York Population Office, he worked as Programme Advisor in Population with the Foundation in Lagos and New Delhi. He has written on life expectancy and population growth in the Third World in such journals as Scientific American and Population and Development Review. Since 1981 he has been Chairman of the National Council for International Health. He is a consultant to numerous organizations, including UNICEF and the Food and Agriculture Organization.

David E. Horlacher — Ph.D. in Economics, Pennsylvania State University, has held professorships at Bucknell and Susquehanna Universities, and numerous consultancies in population and development. He chaired the Population Panel of the South East Asia Development Advisory Group and was a staff member of the Population Division of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific. Joining the United Nations Secretariat in 1980 as Chief of the Population and Development Section of the Population Division, Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, he has served on UNFPA Needs Assessment Missions to Egypt and Ghana, lectured at the United Nations Training Course at the University of Moscow, organized sessions for the

Population Association of America, and presented a requested paper at the IUSSP general meeting in Manila. His section is organizing the Expert Group Meeting on Population, Resources, Environment and Development in preparation for the 1984 International Conference on Population.

Lawrence R. Kegan — Since 1980, Senior Consultant and President emeritus of the Population Crisis Committee. From 1970 to 1979, President and Executive Director of the Population Crisis Committee; Chairman-International Development Conference; Programme Coordinator for 1983 International Society for Reproductive Medicine. From 1964 to 1970, Associate Director, Committee for Economic Development. From 1954 to 1964, Corporate Economist and Director of Marketing Research, Crown-Zellerbach; 1971 got the American Medical Association to drop ban on abortion; helped organize the first National Conference on Food and Population; with support from 2000 concerned citizens world-wide presented to UN Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim. Organized first International Conference of Women on Population and Development, leading to inclusion of role and status of women in World Population Plan of Action adopted in 1974 at Bucharest. Worked on World Food Conference, International Women's Conference in Mexico, 1975, Tokyo International Symposium, 1977, and the Nairobi Environment Conference, 1982, etc.

Zulma Recchini de Lattes is Chief of the Population Trends and Structure Section, United Nations Population Division. She studied at the National University of Buenos Aires, at CELADE and at the University of Pennsylvania (Ph.D 1971). She was bureau member of the Committee for International Cooperation in National Development Council of Argentina for three years, Co-Director of the Programme of Demographic Research of the Instituto di Tella (1971-1974), adviser to the National Institute of Statistics of Argentina (1974-1976), and founder member of the Centro de Estudios de Poblacion — CENEP (1976-1981). She has published numerous articles and several books in the fields of mortality, urbanization, migration, labour force and women's studies, and has participated in many international conferences.

Stanley J. Matek has spent his entire professional career in public sector programme development and administration, first as a staff member and then Director of the Milwaukee County Mental Health Planning Council, and since 1973 as Executive Director of the Orange County Health Planning Council in California. He is the immediate past President of the American Public Health Association and is on the Board of Directors of the American Health Planning Association. As a public health spokesman and policy advisor, Mr. Matek has testified repeatedly before House and Senate Committees of Congress and before State legislatures. He has appeared frequently on news and panel shows on radio and television and has been quoted in Newsweek, The Wall Street Journal, Science magazine, Parade magazine, The Washington Post and a variety of professional journals, books and newsletters.

Rafael M. Salas, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, has served as the only head of UNFPA since it became operational in 1969. In 1982, he was appointed by the United Nations Secretary-General as Secretary-General of the International Conference on Population to be held in Mexico in 1984. He was Executive Secretary of the Philippine

Republic from 1966 to 1969, and initiated the "green revolution" in the late 1960s. As a diplomat, he served on numerous delegations to international conferences. He served as Assistant Vice-President of the University of Philippines, and taught law, economics and political science. He is a graduate of the same university (A.B., magna cum laude; LL.B., cum laude) and Harvard University (M.P.A.). He has received many honorary degrees (Ph.D., LL.D., D.P.A., D.Pol.S., D.P.S., D.Econ., D.S.S., L.H.D., D.H.), honorary professorships and academic awards from academic institutions in different parts of the world. He was also named "Diplomat of the Year" in 1976 by the Editorial Board of the Diplomatic World Bulletin. He is the author of International Population Assistance: The First Decade (1979), and People: An International Choice (1976), as well as the author of numerous articles on government management and population issues.

Hernan Sanhueza (M.D., M.Sc.), has been Director of the International Planned Parenthood Federation/Western Hemisphere Region, Inc. (IPPF/WHR) since February, 1978. He is a physician who had served as an Ob.Gyn. and Public Health specialist at the University of Chile, shortly after his graduation from that institution. He holds a graduate degree in medical demography from the University of London. He joined the IPPF/WHR in 1972 as its Medical Director. Most recently, Dr. Sanhueza served as Coordinator of the Western Hemisphere Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development held in Brasilia, Brazil, December 1982.

Jyoti S. Singh is Chief of the Information and External Relations Division of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities. He is a graduate of Banares Hindu University (B.A., LL.B., M.A.), and New York University (M.A.). Prior to joining the United Nations, he was Secretary-General of the World Assembly of Youth from 1966 to 1972. He served as Assistant Executive Secretary for the 1974 World Population Year, and is now Executive Co-ordinator for the 1984 International Conference on Population. He is the author of A New International Economic Order (1977) as well as many articles and papers in English and Spanish on population and international relations. He was designated Honorary Professor, Central American University, Managua, Nicaragua (1975) and was awarded an honorary doctorate, International Institute of Integration, La Paz, Bolivia (1980).

Leon Tabah has been the Director of the Population Division of the United Nations Department of International Economic and Social Affairs since October 1972 and is the Deputy Secretary-General of the International Conference on Population, 1984. A French national, Mr. Tabah studied at the Lyon and Paris Universities, and holds a Ph.D. in Economics. He began his career in 1946 as a statistician and a population expert in the National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies (INSEE) and in the National Institute of Demographic Studies (INED) of France. He was Director of Studies at the School for Higher Studies in Paris and a professor at the Institute of Political Studies and at the Institute for Higher Studies in Latin America. He contributed to the establishment of the Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE) in Santiago, Chile, as a United Nations expert, and taught at the Centre and was engaged in research from 1957 to 1963. He also taught at the Colegio de Mexico and at the University of Algiers. He also participated in various United Nations activities, including the establishment of the demographic centre in Yaounde, Cameroon, and has participated in numerous international meetings of population experts. He was President of the Committee

"Economie-Population" of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP) and is a member of several international associations.

Heino E. Wittrin, who holds the rank of Assistant Secretary-General, has served as Deputy Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities since January 1982. He is a national of the Federal Republic of Germany, and is a graduate of the University of Freiburg. He received B.A. and M.S. degrees in Economics from Indiana University, and an M.B.A. degree from the University of Chicago. Prior to his UNFPA appointment, he served as Director of UNICEF's world-wide supply function in New York since 1973. He has served in the United Nations system since 1958, first as Procurement Officer with UNICEF, as Programme Officer and Deputy Resident Representative for UNDP in Iran and in New York, as Industrial Development Officer with UNIDO, and as UNICEF's European Supply Division Chief in Paris and Geneva from 1969 to 1972. Previous to his United Nations service, he was a research associate and lecturer in the School of Business at the University of Chicago.

Nadia Youseff, recently appointed Senior Policy Specialist Women's Participation in Economic Activities and Basic Services, UNICEF, is part of the programme development and planning division. Formerly Director of Research of the International Center for Research on Women, Washington, D.C., Dr. Youseff, a social demographer (University of California at Berkeley) has done extensive research on the relationship between fertility, employment and education; changing economic conditions and employment needs of Third World poor urban and rural women. Taught at University of California, Berkeley and the University of Southern California, Los Angeles. Concerned with impact of modernization on changing economic needs and responsibilities of women in developing societies. Published three books; extensive field experience in Latin America and North Africa.

George Zeidenstein is President of the Population Council. He held positions with the Ford Foundation from 1969 until 1976, serving as Senior Programme Officer, South Asia, Office for Asia and the Pacific, and Deputy Head, Office of Asia and the Pacific, and then opening the Ford Foundation's office in Dhaka, Bangladesh, and becoming Representative there. While with the Peace Corps from 1965 to 1968, he worked as Country Director in Napal, Kathmandu, and later was Regional Director designate, Office for East Asia and the Pacific. After graduation from Harvard Law School, Mr. Zeidenstein spent ten years in private law practice. He first became involved in social issues in 1974 when he served for a time as a volunteer with the Lawyers Constitutional Defense Committee, posted in Holly Springs, Mississippi. He is a member of the council of the Overseas Development Council, member of the Year 2000 Committee and of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Alba Zizzamia, President, Conference of NGOs in Consultative Status with ECOSOC. Dr. Zizzamia, who represents the World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations, has been active in the NGO community in several capacities, having twice served as Chairman of the NGO Committee on UNICEF, and has also served as Secretary and First Vice President of the Conference of NGOs in CONGO.